

Message Text

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ACTION OES-05

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TAGS: OSCI, TGEN, PL

SUBJECT: SFCP: NEXT SESSION OF US-POLISH JOINT BOARD ON SCIENCE
AND TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION

REF: STATE 290087

1. ON DECEMBER 17, THE SCIENCE COUNSELOR CALLED ON THE POLISH JOINT
FUND CO-CHAIRMAN, PAWLESZEWSKI, TO PRESENT THE DEPARTMENT'S SUGGES-
TIONS CONCERNING THE DATES OF THE NEXT JOINT-BOARD MEETING
PAWLISZESKI INDICATED THAT MARCH 1-3 WOULD PROBABLY BE OPTIMUM TIME TO

HOLD THE NEXT JOINT BOARD MEETING IN WASHINGTON, NOTING THAT SEVERAL
MEMBERS OF THE POLISH DELEGATION NOW HAVE OTHER COMMITMENTS PRACTICALLY

THROUGH THE END OF FEBRUARY. HE STATED THAT THE POLISH SIDE SHOULD
BE READY WITH A FORMAL ANSWER ON THE PROPOSED DATES FOR THE NEXT
JOINT BOARD MEETING WITHIN SEVERAL DAYS.

2. PAWLISZEWSKI ALSO INDICATED THAT THREE FULL DAYS SHOULD BE
SUFFICIENT FOR THE JOINT BOARD MEETING UNDERLINING, HOWEVER, THE
NEED FOR AN EARLY EXCHANGE OF AGENDA PROPOSALS AND PREPARATORY
WORK. PAWLISZEWSKI AND THE SCIENCE COUNSELOR DISCUSSED THE
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FOLLOWING POSSIBLE AGENDA ITEMS:

(A) U.S. PER DIEM PAYMENTS - PAWLISZEWSKI SAID THAT HE BELIEVED THE POLISH SIDE COULD ACCEPT THE CONCEPT THAT THE GRAND TOTAL OF A RESEARCH CONTRACT BE CONSIDERED AS THE U.S. CONTRIBUTION TO THE JOINT FUND RATHER THAN JUST THE AMOUNT THE U.S. HAS ACTUALLY DEPOSITED TO THE FUND. THIS WOULD THEN PERMIT THE U.S. TO COUNT AS A CONTRIBUTION THE U.S. PER DIEM PAYMENTS AND THE OTHER ITEMS THAT ARE DISBURSED DIRECTLY BY THE EMBASSY. COMMENT: WE BELIEVE THIS WOULD BE AN IDEAL SOLUTION TO THE ZLOTY PER DIEM PROBLEM, WHICH WOULD ENABLE THE U.S. SIDE TO MAKE AN EASY RETROACTIVE COMPUTATION ON AMOUNTS DEDUCTED THUS FAR WHICH SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AS A U.S. CONTRIBUTION TO THE FUND. WE URGE THAT THIS UNDERSTANDING BE INCORPORATED IN THE DECISION DOCUMENT FOR THE NEXT BOARD MEETING, AND RETROACTIVE AMOUNTS REFLECTED IN THE NEXT TREASURER'S REPORT. END COMMENT.

(B) METHOD OF CONTRIBUTION TO THE FUND - PAWLISZEWSKI RETURNED SEVERAL TIMES TO THE THEME THAT THE POLISH SIDE WAS UNHAPPY THAT U.S. CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE FUND ARE DIRECTLY TIED TO SPECIFIC RESEARCH PROJECTS, AND NOTED THAT IN THE FIRST BOARD MEETING CHOWANIEC RESERVED THE RIGHT TO RAISE THIS MATTER IN SUBSEQUENT MEETINGS. PAWLISZEWSKI STATED THAT THIS METHOD OF CONTRIBUTION RESTRICTS JOINT FUND COOPERATION TO LABORATORY-ORIENTED JOINT RESEARCH PROPOSALS, AND DOES NOT PROVIDE FOR OTHER TYPES OF COOPERATION, AS CALLED FOR IN THE AGREEMENT, SUCH AS SYMPOSIA AND PUBLICATIONS. THE SCIENCE COUNSELOR STATED HIS BELIEF THAT JOINT FUND PROJECTS ARE NOT NECESSARILY RESTRICTED TO LABORATORY-ORIENTED RESEARCH AND THAT, IN FACT, HE HAS ALREADY AGREED TO SUPPORT A SYMPOSIUM NEXT YEAR ON SPINAL CORD INJURIES AS A JOINT FUND PROJECT. COMMENT: WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE TIME-WASTING AND COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE TO HAVE THE POLISH SIDE RAISE THIS HOARY ISSUE AT THE NEXT BOARD MEETING, AND THE EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE THE DEPARTMENT'S ADVICE AND COMMENTS ON HOW WE SHOULD PROCEED IN DISCOURAGING THE POLISH SIDE FROM PRESENTING IT AS AN AGENDA ITEM. END COMMENT.

(C) TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS - THE SCIENCE COUNSELOR NOTED THAT AN ERDA TEAM IS EXPECTED IN WARSAW EARLY NEXT YEAR AND, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AMONG OTHER THINGS, HAS AGREED TO EXAMINE COAL RESEARCH PROPOSALS THAT WOULD BE TOTALLY FUNDED BY THE POLISH SIDE. IF SUCH PROJECTS WERE AGREED UPON, THIS WOULD RAISE THE IMMEDIATE PROBLEM OF HOW TO HANDLE TRAVEL FOR POLISH FUNDED PROJECTS. PAWLISZEWSKI RESPONDED THAT THE JOINT FUND AGREEMENT CLEARLY STATES THAT PRESENT TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS (I.E., THE STOESSSEL-KRZAK AGREEMENT) WOULD REMAIN IN EFFECT THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 1978 AND, THEREFORE, THERE SHOULD BE NO DIFFERENCE AS FAR AS

TRAVEL IS CONCERNED WHETHER THE PROJECT IS U.S. OR POLISH FUNDED. COMMENT: WE BELIEVE THAT PAWLISZEWSKI IS SUBSTANTIALLY CORRECT ON THIS POINT; HOWEVER, BEFORE WE AGREE TO THIS PROCEDURE, WE SHOULD OBTAIN A CLEARER STATEMENT FROM THE POLES ON HOW THEY PROPOSE TO FINANCE TRAVEL AFTER DECEMBER 31, 1978. DESPITE SEVERAL PROBES WITH PAWLISZEWSKI, KAPUSTA AND PETRUS, THE SCIENCE COUNSELOR HAS YET TO RECEIVE EVEN A HINT ON HOW AFTER SEPTEMBER 1978 TRAVEL MINGHT BE FUNDED. END COMMENT.
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